

*B/* Exemplary thereof are oxides, nitrides, sulfides, hydroxides or chlorides. Preferred are boron compounds, nickel hydroxide, aluminum chloride, aluminumisopropoxide, tin acetate, tin chloride or an alcohol solution of metal such as calcium oxalate monohydrate or tetraethylene orthosilicate. Most preferred are at least one boron compound such as  $B_2O_3$ ,  $H_3BO_3$ ,  $BF_3$ .

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 3, 5, 9, and 11, ~~amend~~ claims 6 and 12 and add claim 13. All of pending claims 2, 4, 6 to 8, 10, 12 and 13 follow:

2. The negative active material slurry composition of claim 6 wherein the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Fe, Cr, Co, Cu and Mo, the alkaline metal is selected from the group consisting of Ca and Mg, and the semi-metal is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, Si and Sn.

4. The negative active material slurry composition of claim 6 wherein the compound includes at least one boron compound.

*B/* 6. (Twice Amended) A negative active material slurry for a rechargeable lithium battery comprising a mixture of a negative active material and a compound in an organic solvent, the compound being selected from the group consisting of nitride compounds, sulfide compounds, chloride compounds and fluoride compounds, wherein the compound further comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition metals, alkaline metals, alkaline earth metals and semi-metals, wherein the amount of the compound is 0.05 to 30 wt %.

8. The method of claim 12 wherein the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Fe, Cr, Co, Cu and Mo, the alkaline metal is selected from the group consisting of Na and K, the alkaline earth metal is selected from the group consisting of Ca and Mg, and the semi-metal is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, Si and Sn.